



STATE OF RHODE ISLAND
**ENERGY EFFICIENCY &
RESOURCE MANAGEMENT COUNCIL**

EERMC LEARNING, EDUCATION, AND ADVANCEMENT DISCUSSION DRAFT MEETING MINUTES

Monday, May 01, 2023

Council Meeting | 1:00 - 4:00 PM

President's Dining Room, Donovan Dining Center, Rhode Island College, 600 Mt. Pleasant Ave., Providence, RI 02908 with additional audio/video participation available through Zoom.

Members in Attendance: Harry Oakley, Peter Gill Case, Sue AnderBois, Joe Garlick, Kurt Teichert, Bob Izzo, Brett Feldman, Kate Grant

Others in Attendance: Rachel Sholly, Adrian Caesar, Sam Ross, Craig Johnson, Ben Smith, Chris Hunter, Anika Kreckel, Steven Chybowski, William Owen

1. Arrival, Refreshments, and Welcome

Chairperson Oakley opened the meeting at 1:03 p.m. Ms. Sholly gave an overview of the agenda.

2. EERMC Brand and Communications Focus Group

Discussion of the Council's Branding and Communications update was facilitated by Ben Smith and Chris Hunter from Advocacy Solutions beginning with an 'Elevator Pitch' exercise, focused on conveying Council Member perspectives on the value and role of the Council, target audiences and key messaging targets, and how success is defined for the Council. Focusing on the effectiveness of the efficiency programming within the state, Council discussed how to ensure the message is reaching all Rhode Island residents, and how to reinforce the legitimacy and effectiveness of the oversight of the program. The Council next discussed the educational mandate of the Council, and how the rebranding effort was an educational initiative to help bring greater awareness of the climate change and emissions reductions potential of energy efficiency.

3. Updates to Least Cost Procurement Standards

Mr. Ross and Mr. Johnson of the Council's Consultant Team opened a discussion on the proposed updates to the LCP Standard underway at the PUC, noting the proposed changes, items for additional consideration, and the overall timing of the plan components. The Council discussed how a Three-Year binding energy efficiency plan functions and what steps might be needed to transition Rhode Island to that structure, as well as the potential

benefit to Council's activity and budgeting.

4. EC4 Activities Update

Ms. Kreckel from the Office of Energy Resources gave a presentation on the EC4's efforts in producing the 2022 Update to the 2016 Greenhouse Gas Reduction Plan, and the effort being undertaken to develop the more robust 2025 Climate Strategy. Council discussed the progress made to date, the state's achievement of the 2020 emissions mandate and the remaining effort to reach the 2030 mandate. The overview of the work to develop the 2025 Strategy highlighted the analyses that would be conducted, what the public listening sessions would contribute, and tying the Council's work to reduce emissions to the climate targets.

5. Upcoming EERMC RFPs & Budgeting Process

Ms. Sholly lead a discussion on the Council's budget planning for 2024, the scope of RFP effort in the months ahead, how to increase funding for the EE and Climate Public Awareness Campaign. The consultant team also described the potential for the market-based solutions study to elicit effective programming models, and how a three-year planning process could affect the Council's efforts and budgeting.

6. Public Comment

None.

7. Adjournment

Chairperson Oakley adjourned the session at 3:58 p.m. Council Member Gill Case seconded. All in favor, none opposed.